

4VAC15-20-50. Definitions and Miscellaneous: In General: Definitions: "Wild Animal," "Native Animal," "Naturalized Animal," "Nonnative (Exotic) Animal," and "Domestic Animal."

Summary:

The proposal is to remove the reference to the department's Richmond location, which is no longer accurate, and update with the headquarters reference.

Proposed language of amendment:

4VAC15-20-50. Definitions; "Wild Animal," "Native Animal," "Naturalized Animal," "Nonnative (Exotic) Animal," and "Domestic Animal."

A. In accordance with § 29.1-100 of the Code of Virginia, the following terms shall have the meanings ascribed to them by this section when used in regulations of the board:

"Native animal" means those species and subspecies of animals naturally occurring in Virginia, as included in the department's 2018 "List of Native and Naturalized Fauna of Virginia," with copies available in the ~~Richmond~~ headquarters and regional offices of the department.

"Naturalized animal" means those species and subspecies of animals not originally native to Virginia that have established wild, self-sustaining populations, as included in the department's 2018 "List of Native and Naturalized Fauna of Virginia," with copies available in the ~~Richmond~~ headquarters and regional offices of the department.

"Nonnative (exotic) animal" means those species and subspecies of animals not naturally occurring in Virginia, excluding domestic and naturalized species.

The following animals are defined as domestic animals:

Domestic dog (*Canis familiaris*), including wolf hybrids.

Domestic cat (*Felis catus*), including hybrids with wild felines.

Domestic horse (*Equus caballus*), including hybrids with *Equus asinus*.

Domestic ass, burro, and donkey (*Equus asinus*).

Domestic cattle (*Bos taurus* and *Bos indicus*).

Domestic sheep (*Ovis aries*) including hybrids with wild sheep.

Domestic goat (*Capra hircus*).

Domestic swine (*Sus scrofa*), including pot-bellied pig and excluding any swine that are wild or for which no claim of ownership can be made.

Llama (*Lama glama*).

Alpaca (*Lama pacos*).

Camels (*Camelus bactrianus* and *Camelus dromedarius*).

Domesticated races of hamsters (*Mesocricetus* spp.).

- 28 Domesticated races of mink (*Mustela vison*) where adults are heavier than 1.15 kilograms or their coat
29 color can be distinguished from wild mink.
- 30 Domesticated races of guinea pigs (*Cavia porcellus*).
- 31 Domesticated races of gerbils (*Meriones unguiculatus*).
- 32 Domesticated races of chinchillas (*Chinchilla laniger*).
- 33 Domesticated races of rats (*Rattus norvegicus* and *Rattus rattus*).
- 34 Domesticated races of mice (*Mus musculus*).
- 35 Domesticated breeds of European rabbit (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*) recognized by the American Rabbit
36 Breeders Association, Inc. and any lineage resulting from crossbreeding recognized breeds. A list of
37 recognized rabbit breeds is available on the department's website.
- 38 Domesticated races of chickens (*Gallus*).
- 39 Domesticated races of turkeys (*Meleagris gallopavo*).
- 40 Domesticated races of ducks and geese distinguishable morphologically from wild birds.
- 41 Feral pigeons (*Columba domestica* and *Columba livia*) and domesticated races of pigeons.
- 42 Domesticated races of guinea fowl (*Numida meleagris*).
- 43 Domesticated races of peafowl (*Pavo cristatus*).
- 44 "Wild animal" means any member of the animal kingdom, except domestic animals, including without
45 limitation any native, naturalized, or nonnative (exotic) mammal, fish, bird, amphibian, reptile, mollusk,
46 crustacean, arthropod or other invertebrate, and includes any hybrid of them, except as otherwise
47 specified in regulations of the board, or part, product, egg, or offspring of them, or the dead body or parts
48 of them.
- 49 B. Exception for red foxes and European rabbits. Domesticated red foxes (*Vulpes vulpes*) having coat
50 colors distinguishable from wild red foxes and wild European rabbits possessed in captivity on July 1,
51 2017, may be maintained in captivity until the animal dies, but the animal may not be bred or sold without
52 a permit from the department. Persons possessing domesticated red foxes or European rabbits without a
53 permit from the department must declare such possession in writing to the department by January 1, 2018.
54 This written declaration must include the number of individual animals in possession and date acquired,
55 sex, estimated age, coloration, and a photograph of each fox or European rabbit. This written declaration
56 shall (i) serve as a permit for possession only, (ii) is not transferable, and (iii) must be renewed every five
57 years.

Rationale:

The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries relocated its headquarters from the location on Broad Street in Richmond to its current location on Villa Park Drive in Henrico in 2015. This update corrects references to the previous office location and replaces it with a headquarters reference.